

Oshkosh Grass Matting Company
(Deltax Complex)
35 Wisconsin Street
Oshkosh
Winnebago County
Wisconsin

HAER No. WI-11

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record
National Park Service
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
Department of the Interior
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

Oshkosh Grass Matting Company
(Deltex Complex)

HAER No. WI-11

Location: 35 Wisconsin Street
Oshkosh, Winnebago County, Wisconsin

Present Owner: City of Oshkosh

Present Occupants: Buildings 1, 2, 4, 4A, 5, 6, 6A, 6B, 7 and 7A are
vacant. Buildings 2A, 3, 3A, 3B, and 9 - Reliance
Warehousing, Inc., 3600 Moser Street, Oshkosh,
Wisconsin 54901.

Present Use: Buildings 1, 2, 4, 4A, 5, 6, 6A, 6B, 7 and 7A are
vacant. Buildings 2A, 3, 3A, 3B and 9 are warehouses.

Significance: Although the harvesting and manufacturing process used
by the Oshkosh Grass Matting Company was typical of
the era, and the grass mat industry, the Oshkosh Grass
Matting Company was unique in terms of its national
advertising and national distribution. Production was
also significant, since it is estimated that one-half
of the wire grass rugs manufactured in the United
States were manufactured by this company.

The Oshkosh Grass Matting Company, later known as the
Deltex Rug Company, was also a significant contributor

to the local economy over time. During the grass rug era, the company employed 250 persons. By the time it passed from local ownership in 1954, 550 persons were employed. Average employment, over time, was 400.

Transmitted by: Jean P. Yearby, HAER, 1985, from data compiled by the Rocky Mountain Regional Office, National Park Service.

I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Overview

In the early years of the Twentieth Century, woven fiber carpets or "mats" were an item commonly found in the home. In the West and Midwest these mats covered porch floors. In the East, they replaced wool carpets as a floorcovering during the summer months, while in the South they were used year-round.⁴ The fiber mats were made from various natural fibers such as wire, grass, reeds and coir yarn⁵. Wire grass rugs were the most popular and the following discussion will refer to this industry only.

One of the largest companies in the floor matting industry was the Oshkosh Grass Matting Company (1902), later known as the Delttox Grass Rug Company (1914), and finally, the Delttox Rug Company (1924). Over time, this company, hereafter referred to as "Delttox", produced nearly 50% of the wire rugs made⁶.

The first grass mat company was the Crex Company, which was formed in Oshkosh circa 1901. The company soon moved to St. Paul, Minnesota. In 1902, Emil H. Steiger, Leander Chaote, F.E. Waite and R.C. Brown formed the Oshkosh Grass Matting Company in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. In 1904, the company moved from Ceape Avenue to new quarters which it had built on Wisconsin Avenue at the Fox River. As the company expanded, additional buildings were added to the complex. (The buildings themselves are discussed in Section II, Architectural Information).

There were five companies involved in the manufacture of wire grass rugs; the Crex Company, St. Paul, Minnesota, founded in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, circa 1901; the Oshkosh Grass Matting Company, Oshkosh, Wisconsin, founded in 1902; the Waite Carpet Company, founded by a former partner of the Oshkosh Grass Matting Company, circa 1907; the Willow Grass Rug Company, Green Bay, Wisconsin, founded circa 1912; and the DeLuxe Grass Rug Company, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin founded circa 1912. Crex and Oshkosh Grass Matting were by far the largest and most enduring⁷.

The grass rugs companies were located in Minnesota and Wisconsin due to the proximity of the raw material, wire grass. Wire grass marshes were located in these two states as well as Manitoba, Canada. Deltex alone owned 15,000 acres of marshland and leased another 10,000 acres in these three states/provinces.

The grass mat industry faced stiff competition from Japanese rice straw rugs. The rice straw rugs were less durable than wire grass rugs but were much cheaper. One by one the grass mat companies ceased production due to Japanese competition, until even the industry-leading Crex Company dissolved in the mid-1930's⁸. Only the Deltex Company and the Waite Carpet Company had survived by dropping grass rugs from their line. (Deltex dropped grass rugs from their line in 1924, but made a few special order rugs from supplies on hand until 1935.) Kraft fiber rugs which were more durable, could be dyed, and were designed for year-round use became the mainstay of the company. Also contributing to the survival

of the Delttox Company was its ongoing national advertising campaign which featured advertisements in publications such as Life, The Saturday Evening Post and Better Homes and Gardens.

The Delttox Company's national distribution system was also an important factor. By 1905, Delttox Rugs were being sold on both coasts as well as the South and Midwest⁹. National advertising and national distribution by the Delttox Company were unique to the grass rug industry¹⁰.

Although the Delttox Company's major significance is its role in the development of the grass mat industry, it continued to play a significant role in the City's economy after production of grass rugs ceased. Employment by the Delttox Company during the grass rug era was 250. During the Kraft fiber era employment averaged 400, and reached a high of 550 in 1954 when the company was sold to the Armstrong Cork Company¹¹.

Changing tastes, the popularity of wall to wall carpeting and competition by cheaper labor available in the southern states, caused the Company to cease production in 1968¹².

Delttox, Inc. purchased the facility at that time¹³. It has remained a warehouse from 1968 to the present.

B. Delttox Grass Rugs

Grass rugs were manufactured year-round. However, in the summer, production was reduced by approximately 25% to enable male workers (females constituted approximately 40% of the Delttox work force)¹⁴ to harvest wire grass for the the Delttox Company. Participation was not mandatory and was available only to men because the harvesters lived in camps

located on the marshes. Additional workers were hired from the areas surrounding the marshes. The number of workers at each camp is unknown but total employment in the camps was several hundred.

Following is a participant's account of the harvesting technique:

"Each day ended as it began by bolting and unbolting "clogs" attached to the horses shoes. These clogs measured probably 8" square, rounded at corners. Without them the teams could not have walked on the soft marshy bog, often through puddles of water".

"The operation in harvesting the wire grass consisted of reaping, hand-tying of bundles, skidding the bundles to stacking sites and building stacks".

"The reaping machines were similar to grain binders used on the farms for harvesting grain. However, according to "Ted" Kiesow who worked on the Zittau marsh sites, the platform was formed in a ninety degree angle. There was no apron to carry the swaths of grass up to a knotter as on grain binders. Instead, at intervals, the grass was swept off in swaths, all the butts lying evenly to facilitate the bundle tying."

"As the reapers would cut large areas of choice grass, a crew of six to ten men would follow, led by a "pace-man" or "lead Man". A small band about one inch in diameter was used to secure the swaths of grass into bundles. The men were quite adept in making the bands by tying the heads together with a looped knot and

wrapping the butt ends around and tucking them under.

This was, of course, hot, back-breaking work."

"This wire grass was round in shape, the size of the copper wire in twelve gauge electric wire at the butt end tapering to a wisp at the end. Just a little drying made it sharp to the touch, cutting the fingers. Black friction tape gave the men a remedy for this."

"The bundles were thrown into piles at intervals.

Several men and a couple of teams pulling "slides" would then haul them to the stacking sites. These slides measured perhaps eight by ten feet, made of plank¹⁵."

The bundles were then placed in huge stacks approximately ten feet by fifteen feet by 20 feet in height, until winter, when the marsh was frozen and the ice could support the weight of the of the wire grass press, which was approximately fifteen feet tall and weighed several tons. The wire grass was pressed and baled and transported by sled to storage sheds on the riverbank. In spring, two company-owned steamboats, the Evelyn and the Leander Chaote would bring the grass from the storage sheds to the plant. Some of the Delttox Company buildings were built on pilings in the Fox River to facilitate the unloading of the wire grass from the boats¹⁶. Grass from Minnesota and Canada arrived by railroad cars.

After the grass was unloaded it was combed and fed into spinning machines which spun it into twine. These spinning machines were unique to the Delttox Company. The Delttox- patented spinning machines were desk-sized which enabled the company to operate in modern, efficient one-story buildings.

Other spinning operations necessitated a two or more story operation.

The spools of twine were graded by color to produce a uniform color in the finished product. The twine was then woven on looms which varied in size to accomodate various sizes of rugs. The cloth so woven was then stencilled with oil paint in a variety of colors and designs. Finally, the rugs were cut and bound¹⁷.

As was typical of the era, the Delttox Company manufactured all of its own electric power by the use of coal-fired steam turbines. This continued until 1954. Also typical of the era was the use of an overhead crankshaft and system of belts and pulleys to operate the machines. By 1930 this system had been replaced by machines that were operated by their own individual electric motors¹⁸.

C. Highlights in the History of the Delttox Company

1902	Oshkosh Grass Matting Company founded, Looms developed for making rugs (or "art Squares" as they were called) out of grass.
1903	First sale...to Marshall Field & Company.
1904	Company moved to 35 Wisconsin Street.
1911	First stencilled pattern applied to the rugs.
1912	Ex-President Theodore Roosevelt spoke in newly-finished Delttox

warehouse (largest "auditorium"
available) to crowd of 10,000 ...
4,000 turned away. Building
demolished c. 1966.

1912-1914 (c.) Wire grass porch furniture manu-
factured. Wire grass cloth was
attached to a wooden fram and varnished.

1914 Corporate name changed to Deltox
Grass Rug Company.

1922 First Deltox Kraft rugs produced.
Became major production item.

1924 Corporate name changed to "Deltox
Rug Company".

1926 First jacquard looms purchased and
adapted to produce fiber and wool
combination rugs.

1929 Last grass harvested. A few grass
rugs were made from supplies on hand
as late as 1935.

1929 Mr. E.H. Steiger, the founder,
passes on. His sons, Carl and Emil,
succeed him in the management.

1930 Cotton tufted rugs added to line.
Discontinued in 1950 - space was
needed for additional fiber rug
production¹⁹.

1941 War effort slows down rug production.
Looms used to manufacture cotton

canvas for U.S. Government.

1941-1945

Delttox-Kraft fiber automobile seat-covers manufactured²⁰.

1954

Worlds largest fiber rug manufactured-measures 15' x 74'²¹.

1954

Armstrong Cork purchases assets of Delttox Company²².

1961

T.C. Widder, Ralph Petersen and John Miller purchase Delttox Company from Armstrong Cork Company²³.

1968

Production ceases. Delttox, Inc. purchases land, buildings and equipment and sets up a warehousing operation²⁴.

1983

City of Oshkosh purchases Delttox complex²⁵.

FOOTNOTES

- (1) Steiger, Carl E., interviewed by Catherine W. Porter, Oshkosh, Wisconsin, March 22, 1984.
- (2) Ibid.
- (3) Ibid.
- (4) Ibid., April 3, 1984.
- (5) United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Biennial Census of Manufacturing, 1921, "Table 169 - Mats and Matting" (Washington, D.C., 1924).
- (6) Steiger, March 22, 1984.
- (7) Ibid.
- (8) Ibid.
- (9) Delttox Rug Company, The Delttox Story - 50 Years of Rug Making, (Oshkosh, WI, 1952) p. 3.
- (10) Steiger, March 22, 1984.
- (11) Ibid.
- (12) Gary Metro "Delttox Wasn't Always the Way You See It Now", Oshkosh Daily Northwestern, February 20, 1983, p. 6.
- (13) "Lease Warehouse Space in Former Delttox Factory", Oshkosh Daily Northwestern, April 16, 1968, p. 3.
- (14) Steiger, December, 1983.
- (15) Melvin Utecht, "Life on the Delttox Wire Grass Marshes", Acquisition #7040, Collection of the Oshkosh Public Museum.
- (16) Steiger, December, 1983.
- (17) "American Grass Rug Industry", Dry Goods Guide, April 1919, p. 12-15.
- (18) Steiger, December, 1983.
- (19) "Delttox Story", p. 4.
- (20) Steiger, December, 1983.
- (21) "Delttox Distributors and Sales Force Assemble", Oshkosh Daily Northwestern, September 17, 1954, p. 23.

- (22) "Armstrong Cork to Take Over Delttox", Oshkosh Daily Northwestern, October 8, 1954, p. 1.
- (23) "Berlin Man Buys Control of Delttox", Oshkosh Daily Northwestern, March 25, 1961, p. 1.
- (24) "Lease", Oshkosh Daily Northwestern, April 16, 1968, p. 3.
- (25) Warranty Deed recorded November 15, 1983, Winnebago County Courthouse, Document #601278.

II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

Building Description:

Following is a description of the present and original physical appearance of structures within the Delttox Complex. Building identification corresponds with map # I. All buildings are industrial structures which reflect the era in which they were built. No architects were involved. Fluor Brothers Construction Company, Oshkosh, Wisconsin, built buildings 1, 2, 2A, 3 and 3A. Builders of the other buildings are unknown.

BUILDING #1 (1905)

This building was the powerhouse and boiler room. The boilers are dismantled with only the shell and the tubes in place. None of the auxiliary equipment is in place or usable. There is a concrete floor, and concrete roof supported by metal trusses, 14' on center. There is a metal clad, swinging fire door on the north wall which is 4' x 8' in size. There is a metal clad, swinging fire-door 3' x 7' in size. Included in Building #1 is a powerhouse which is accessible by a metal stair off the boiler room. The power house has a wood floor, steel walls, fiber board ceiling. Supporting the roof is a metal truss. Lighting is incandescent, wiring is in conduit. This building also has a wood enclosed water closet, a water fountain and 2 lavatories, none of which are usable. Their condition is very poor. The walls of this rectangular shaped building are common brick with no windows and two doors. There is one smokestack.

BUILDING #2 (1912)

This rectangular building has a concrete floor, common brick interior and exterior walls and exposed ceiling. Leading into this building is a sliding metal clad fire-door 8' x 8' in size. Vertical steel "H" columns are 5" x 5" in size, 16' on center. Steel and concrete horizontal beams support the tile roof, all supported by metal roof trusses that are 16" on center. There is an 8' x 8' overhead door in the north wall for railroad loading. It is metal clad. Wiring is in conduit, lighting is incandescent. There are two new switches 100 ampere and 200 ampere. There are two fairly new ceiling hung gas-fired heaters heating the structure. The entire structure has a sprinkler system.

This building is structurally sound. The concrete floor at the west end of the building in the south area is sagging noticeably.

This building was the paint shop where designs were stencilled on the rugs with oil paint.

There are eighteen (18) 6 over 9 metal-frame, metal bar and muntin double unit windows in the north wall of this building.

BUILDING #2A (1912)

This building has a concrete floor, walls of common brick on the north, east and west sides and concrete block on the south side. Vertical steel "H" columns are 8" x 8" and 6" x 6" in size. They are 20' on center. Horizontal steel beams supporting the frame roof are 8" x 16" in size and have a span of 33'. Wiring is in conduit, lighting is

fluorescent. The entire building is sprinklered. There is a metal clad, automatically operated fire-door on the north wall which is 8' x 8' in size. There is a wood and glass overhead door on the south wall at dock height which is 10' x 16' in size. It has 4 panels of wood and 1 panel of glass. Windows in the structure are a combination of wire reinforced frosted glass and glass block. There is one (1) block window in the west wall and sixteen (16) in the north wall. There are two (2) 6 over 9 metal frame, metal sash and muntin windows in the south wall. The roof pitches to a height of approximately 8' above normal roof level, providing a glass skylight for natural illumination. There is a 35' x 35' mezzanine area with a metal and concrete stairway leading up to a ladies' and a men's locker room. The locker rooms have asphalt tile floors, plastered walls, plaster ceilings. Each has a 5' diameter Bradley wash sink, 2 toilets enclosed in metal partitions.

The men's room is of the same basic construction as the ladies' room. It has two urinals and three toilets in metal enclosures. The floor surrounding the urinals is of ceramic tile. Lighting is incandescent, wiring is in conduit. There is also a small office in this loft, which is of the same basic construction as the locker rooms. The first floor area is heated with 17 suspended gas-fired unit heaters. On the south wall there is a 6' x 7' metal clad, 2-section swinging fire-door. There is a second fire-door of the same type on the south wall which is 7' x 9' in size. There are two offices at the west end of this building with asphalt

tile floors, wood panel walls, 2' x 4' ceiling tile, fluorescent lights. There is a concrete block recessed loading dock at the west wall with two overhead doors, dock levelers.

This building was known as the "twisting" room where kraft paper was twisted into a cord that could be woven on a loom. Prior to 1924, this building housed the spooling and beaming operations, where cotton was wound onto beams.

It is in fair condition.

BUILDING #3 (1919)

This building was the office from 1919 to 1968. There were nineteen (19) offices in this building. A typical office in this building has a wood floor, plastered walls with plywood veneer wainscoting and celotex ceiling tile. The acoustic ceiling tiles are in only fair condition. Lighting is fluorescent drop fixtures, windows are old wood sash, Electrical outlets are adequate.

A men's restroom and ladies' restroom with plaster walls, painted woodwork, ceramic tile floors and celotex ceiling tiles are also located in this building. Two vaults of semi-fireproof construction and an oak panelled entrance hall are also located here.

The office portion features double hung wood sash mullioned windows with stone sills with steel lintels. Eight (8) windows are located in the east wall as well as two doors. Three triple-unit windows are located in the south wall of the office portion.

The remainder of Building #3 is an open warehouse with horizontal steel supports. It has a concrete floor with

minor cracks. The walls on the south are of plywood leading into the office area. The walls on the east and west are of exposed solid brick. The wall leading into Building #3A is of painted brick. The ceiling is exposed steel ceiling joists with wood deck cover. Lighting is fluorescent tube. There are seven (7) suspended units heating this section. There are seven (7) multi-lite, frosted glass with wire mesh windows in the north wall. Some windows have been boarded up. Wiring is in conduit. There is a ladies' room in this section with painted concrete floor, plastered walls and exposed ceiling. There is an additional suspended heater in this room. It contains 3 modern lavatories and 2 modern water closets enclosed with wood partitions. There is a men's room in this section also. It has concrete floor, two walls plastered, two walls of painted brick, a fiber board ceiling. There is a slop sink, a urinal and 2 water closets with metal enclosures. The vertical "H" columns are 8" x 8" in size. They are 16' and 18' on center. The horizontal "H" columns are 6" x 16" in size. On top of the horizontal "H" columns is wooden superstructure supporting the flat roof. The entire structure is equipped with a sprinkler system. This building is in fair condition.

From 1919-1922 this building was used for experimental purposes. Various fibers such as flax and hemp were used for rugs on a trial basis. In 1922 a wool-kraft combination fiber was developed and this building became the Jacquard loom room for the wool-kraft combination fiber rugs. This use continued until 1930. Tufted bath mats were made here from

1930-1950. This was a warehouse from 1950 to the present.

BUILDING #3A (1955)

This building has a concrete floor in fairly good condition. The north and west walls are of 12" concrete block. The east wall is of solid brick. The south wall is 12" painted concrete block. There are 2 vertical "H" columns, 6" x 6" in size and 30' on center. Supporting the roof are horizontal beams 8" x 16" in size. The center section utilized for traffic control shortens the span to 18'. This section has a horizontal "I" beam which is 8" x 10" in size. Supporting the spancrete roof are steel joists 12" in size, 4' on center. There is a metal clad fire-door on the east wall, 8' x 8' in size. The west wall has a metal clad fire-door 8' x 8' in size. There is an automatically operated overhead door on the south wall. It is 8' x 8' in size. It is of wood and glass construction in four sections, two sections are multi-lite glass and the two bottom sections are of wood. There are three (3) triple unit multi-lite windows with metal frame, bars and muntins on the north wall. Some windows have been boarded up. There are 4 suspended heaters heating this building. There is a wood overhead door on the north wall, 8' x 12' in size. It is a 6-section door. Wiring in this building is conduit. Lighting is incandescent. The entire building is equipped with a sprinkler system.

This building is in fair condition.

This building housed looms and Kraft-twisting departments prior to becoming a warehouse in 1968.

BUILDING #3B (1955)

This building has a concrete floor. The exterior walls are of 12" concrete block on all sides. The roof is of concrete soffit block supported by 12" steel joist, 3' on center. The vertical steel "H" columns are 7" x 8" and 10" x 10". The horizontal steel beams are 8" x 18" and 6" x 10" in size. Spans are 25' and 23' collectively. Wiring is conduit. Lighting is incandescent. There is an automatically operated 8' x 12' overhead door on the north wall. It has 3 sections of wood construction and 3 sections of glass. There is a water fountain in this section. This entire building is equipped with a sprinkler system. There is a second 8' x 12' wood overhead door on the north wall at dock height. There is an additional overhead door on the west wall, 8' x 12' in size. It has 3 section of wood and 3 sections are glass. On the south wall there is a metal clad automatically operated fire-door, 8' x 8' in size. There is a steel and concrete stair in a section of this building leading to a loft-type office. It has a carpeted floor, plywood walls, metal ceiling. Lighting is fluorescent. The stairway continues to a section utilized for the men's and ladies' locker rooms. Each one is 23' x 29' in size. The men's room has a concrete floor, plastered walls, plastered ceiling. Wiring is in conduit, lighting is incandescent. The men's room contains a wash sink, one urinal, 2 water closets with metal enclosures. The ladies' room is the same basic construction as the men's room. It has a wash sink and 3 toilets with metal enclosures. The two rooms are partitioned

with concrete block. The roof of the structure could be viewed from this section. The roof is of built-up asphalt, gravel surfaced.

This building is in fair condition.

There are twelve (12) multi-lite windows with metal frame, bars and muntins in the south wall. There are twelve (12) double unit multi-lite windows with metal frame, bars and muntins in the north wall. There is one (1) in the west wall. Some windows have been boarded up.

This building was used for the twisting of Kraft fiber and looms.

BUILDING #4 (1904)

This building has a wood floor, part of which has been reinforced. A portion of the floor is also covered with linoleum. The north part has wood frame walls and wood ceiling. Lighting is fluorescent tube. The frame roof is supported by 8" x 8" wood posts supporting wood beams. The roof is supported by frame rafters which are 14' on center. This portion of the building is entirely sprinklered. The north wall of the north part of the building has been covered with 1/8" masonite. It has a wood floor, frame walls. The frame roof is supported by wood trusses, 14' on center. These in turn are supported by 8" x 8" vertical wood beams. The entire building is sprinklered. The building is heated with two suspended heaters.

The north part of this building is in use and is in fair condition. The south part of this building is not in use and is in poor condition with sagging floors, broken

windows, leaking roof.

This irregularly-shaped building has a gabled roof and one double unit 9 over 9 double hung wood sash window in each gable end. All windows in this building are 9 over 9 double hung wood sash. There are four (4) double unit, one (1) triple unit and one single window of this type in the east wall; three (3) triple unit in the south wall; and 3 (three) double unit and 1 (one) triple unit in the north wall. Some windows are boarded up. The south portion of the building is supported by pilings in the Fox River.

The north portion of this building was the office from 1904 to 1919 and housed the looms and finishing department from 1919 to 1968. The remainder of the building housed looms and the finishing room from 1904-1968.

BUILDING #4A (1904)

This building has a wood floor, wood walls and wood ceiling. The frame roof is supported by wood trusses which are 12' on center. These have been reinforced with 3" metal columns. Lighting is fluorescent. The entire building is sprinklered. There are 3 suspended heaters heating this building. This building is in poor condition with sagging floors, broken windows, leaking roof.

There are eight (8) double unit, 9 over 9, wood sash double hung windows in the south wall of this slope-roofed square building. This building was the loom maintenance and repair shop and is partially supported by pilings in the Fox River.

BUILDING #5 (1904)

This building has an asphalt tile floor on concrete, walls are of plywood, ceiling is celotex ceiling tile. Lighting is modern, fluorescent tube. The entire building is sprinklered.

The building is in fair conditon and features four (4) double unit, 9 over 9, double hung, wood sash windows in the west wall as well as one (1) single window of the same style and one single door.

This gabled buidling was the boiler room until 1905. It was the mechanics room from 1905-1968.

BUILDING #6 (1904)

This building has a wood floor, walls are of frame construction, the ceiling is part wood and part fiber board. The frame roof is supported by wood trusses, 12' on center. These in turn are supported by 8" x 8" vertical wood timbers. Lighting is fluorescent tube, wiring is conduit. The entire building is sprinklered. There are suspended heathers heating this building.

The building is in poor condition with sagging floors, broken windows, leaking roof.

All windows in this building are 9 over 9, double hung, wood sash, double unit windows. There is one such window in the east gable. There are twenty-four (24) windows in the south wall. The south portion of the building is supported by wooden pilings in the Fox River.

This building was the twisting room where grass, and later wool and kraft paper were spun into twine. This use continued until 1955, after which this building was used for

storage.

BUILDING #6A (1905)

This building has a wood floor, frame walls and frame roof. The roof is supported by wood trusses which are 12' on center. The trusses are supported by 8" x 8" vertical timbers. At the west end of this building there are 4 loading bays with 4 overhead doors, each 8' x 8' in size. The doors are 4-panel, 2 of wood and 2 of glass. Wiring in this building is conduit, lighting is incandescent. The entire building is sprinklered. The building has one small office. There is one window and one sliding door in the south wall.

This building was used for storage of wire grass until 1924. From 1924-1968 it was used for storage of finished rugs. It is now vacant and in fair condition.

BUILDING #6B (1905)

This building is enclosed on three sides. It is utilized primarily as a loading dock, since the north side adjoins enclosed trackage and it is at dock height. The structure has a reinforced, wood floor. The south wall is metal clad on steel. The metal roof is supported by 6" x 6" steel "H" columns which are 31' on center. The metal roof deck is supported by 8" x 16" steel "I" beams which are 31' on center. There are metal joists which are 10" in size and 4' on center. Wiring is in conduit, lighting is incandescent. The entire building is sprinklered. There is an 8' x 8' metal clad fire-door. This building contains a receiving office which has a carpet floor, plywood walls and plywood ceiling. The office is 12' x 20' in size. Lighting is modern, fluorescent tube. The

office is heated and is sprinklered. There is a loading dock at the west end of this building with 2 overhead doors. The doors are 8' x 14' in size. Each door is 6-panel, 3 of wood, 3 of glass. There is one double unit, wood sash and frame, 6 over 6 window in the west gable.

This building was built for storage of finished rugs. It has been used as a loading dock in conjunction with the warehousing operation on the site since 1968. It is in fair condition.

BUILDING #7 (1905)

This building has a wood floor and concrete floor, walls are exposed studs which are 2" x 4" in size, 20" on center with some plywood walls. The frame roof is supported by wood trusses which are 16' on center. Lighting is incandescent, wiring is in conduit. There are several offices in poor condition. They have wood floors, walls of wallboard, ceilings are of fiber board. The office area contains one lavatory. The entire building is equipped with a sprinkler system.

Most of this building was used for storage of finished rugs. The northern portion was used for materials testing and the first aid station. It has been vacant since 1968 and is in fair condition. There is one door and one overhead door in the north wall. One double unit and one triple unit window are also in the north wall. They are multi-lite with metal frame, bars, and muntins.

BUILDING #7A (1905)

This building has a wood floor. The walls are of frame with a brick wall on the south. The roof is supported with

wood trusses having a beam of 16'. The trusses support an exposed, frame roof. There is a ladies' room in this building. It has a concrete floor, wood walls and wood ceiling. There are 2 old-style lavatories and 2 old-style water closets which are enclosed with wood partitions. The building contains an inoperable suspended heater. The entire building is sprinklered. Wiring is in conduit and lighting is incandescent.

This building housed the shipping and packing functions. It has been vacant since 1968 and is in poor conditon.

BUILDING #9 (1972)

This building is located west of vacated Osceola Street. It is a Republic Steel pre-engineered warehouse irregular shape with 19,080 square foot area. It is at grade level, 20 foot wall height, 30' by 40' bays, and was built as a warehouse. It has 6' reinforced concrete floor, poured concrete foundation walls and footings, enamel metal walls and gable roof, four 9' x 12' wood overhead doors, 2 Kelley dock levelers, dock bumpers, dock seals, steel columns, steel beams, steel roof framing, insulated walls and roof; 5 ceiling-hung, gas-fired unit heaters; fluorescent light fixtures, 2 tube 8-foot lenght; 2 metal access dooors, 2 concrete ramps down to floor from dock height overhead doors. There is no water service and no sprinklers. There is a 4' by 52' metal canopy over the south overhead doors.

III. CHAIN OF TITLE

- 1903 Deed, October 28, 1903, recorded in Book 242, page 475, William Radford and his wife, Elizabeth Radford and Stephen Radford and his wife, Mary E. Radford to Grass Matting Corporation.
- 1960 Deed, April 30, 1960, recorded in Book 933, page 157, Delttox Rug Company to Armstrong Cork Company.
- 1968 Deed, January 12, 1968, recorded in Book 1198, page 607, Armstrong Cork Company to Delttox, Inc.
- 1969 Deed, June 1, 1969, recorded in Book 1242, page 172, Delttox Inc. to Delttox Industries, Inc.
- 1972 Deed, October 30, 1972, recorded in Book 1360, page 128, Delttox Industries, Inc. to Mid-Continent Services Corp.
- 1979 Deed, November 27, 1979, recorded in Book 1242, page 174, Mid-Continent Service Corp. to Ralph E. Peterson, Joyce M. Mueller, John C. Miller, Alvin T. Stolen, Jr., Thomas W. Godfrey, William N. Godfrey, Kneeland A. Godfrey, Jr., Sarah G. Smith. (Document #543964).
- 1981 Deed, January 19, 1981, recorded in Book 1363, page 170, Ralph E. Peterson, Joyce M. Mueller, John C. Miller, Alvin T. Stolen, Jr., Thomas W. Godfrey, William N. Godfrey, Kneeland A. Godfrey, Jr., Sarah G. Smith to Delttox Storage, Inc. (Document #560522).
- 1983 Deed, November 4, 1983, recorded in Book 1364, page 370, Delttox Storage, Inc. to Ralph E. Peterson, Joyce M. Mueller, Arden N. Miller, Alvin T. Stolen, Jr., Thomas W. Godfrey, William N. Godfrey, Kneeland A. Godfrey, Jr., Sarah G. Smith. (Document #600836).
- 1983 Deed, November 14, 1983, Ralph E. Peterson to City of Oshkosh. (Document #601275).
- 1983 Deed, November 14, 1983, Joyce M. Mueller to City of Oshkosh. (Document #601276).
- 1983 Deed, November 14, 1983, Arden N. Miller to City of Oshkosh. (Ducoment #601277).
- 1983 Deed, November 14, 1983, Alvin T. Stolen, Jr. to City of Oshkosh. (Document #601278).
- 1983 Deed, November 14, 1983, Thomas W. Godfrey to City of Oshkosh. (Document #601279).
- 1983 Deed, November 14, 1983, William N. Godfrey to City of Oshkosh. (Ducoment #601280).

- 1983 Deed, November 14, 1983, Kneeland A. Godfrey, Jr. to
City of Oshkosh. (Document #601281).
- 1983 Deed, November 14, 1983, Sarah G. Smith to City of
Oshkosh. (Document #601282).

OSHKOSH GRASS MATTING COMPANY
DELTOX COMPLEX

35 Wisconsin Street
Oshkosh, WI

SCALE: 1" = 60'

